

News Notes

Public Notice – The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations conducted an accreditation survey of the 15th Medical Group from Sept. 28 to 30.

The purpose of the survey was to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission standards.

The survey results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which accreditation should be awarded the organization.

NCO induction ceremony set for Oct. 4. – Air Force Hawaii 56 is hosting its 1st NCO Induction Ceremony to be held Oct. 4 at 3 p.m. at the Enlisted Club.

For more details contact Tech. Sgt. Tonya Reese-Palmer at 449-1503

The Hickam Hispanic Heritage Committee – The committee has planned various activities for the month.

Salsa classes at the base gym start Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 11 and 13 at 7:30 p.m. For details call Staff Sgt. Mario Leon at 655-3166.

Hispanic Heritage month banquet is Oct. 14 starting at 6:30 p.m. with social hour.

Cost is \$15. For more info and tickets call Senior Airman Iris Figueroa at 306-8245; Airman 1st Class Jennifer Reynolds at 206-9214 or Capt Jose Sorto, 448-6332.

Airman's Council Meeting – The Hawaii Airman's Council meets the first Tuesday of every month.

The next meeting for the general membership is Oct. 4, 3:30 p.m. at the

See NOTES, A10

In this week's Kukini



Rejuvenate, relax, massage B5

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Wake greets new commander

1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble
15th Airlift Wing
Public Affairs

Wake Island celebrated another turning point in its colorful history as it officially welcomed its newest commander, Capt. Vinh Trinh, Detachment 1, 15th Airlift Wing, during an assumption of command ceremony Sept. 23.

"The command of Wake Island takes a special Commander to meet a special

challenge," said Col. Scott Chesnut, 15th Airlift Wing vice commander and presiding official for the ceremony. "Captain Trinh was selected as the Commander because of his specific background and experiences - in this respect the AF hit a home run!"

The captain's addition to the island will help the Air Force continue to build on an already rich history. In the time leading to World War II both Wake Island and the Hawaiian

Islands were considered vital American outposts in the Pacific.

The 15th Airlift Wing accepted control of the little island with fewer than 200 people on it Jan. 1 and ceremoniously took charge of the island Mar. 4 during an activation ceremony. Prior to its assignment to the 15th Airlift Wing, the island was assigned to the 13th Air Force, Anderson Air Force Base, Guam.

Today, the island provides the 15th Airlift Wing with facilities, vehicles, aviation fuel and bare base assets to sustain aircraft for combat operations as well as the bed-down of forces and emergency divert airfield operations.

"I embrace the challenge that the Air Force has entrusted to me," said Captain Trinh upon his assumption of command. "I am the commander of an island I had never heard

of before in a setting that is unfamiliar, but I am inspired by the commitment that Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, the 15th Airlift Wing, and our contractor, Chugach, have displayed."

The assumption of command is another step forward in Wake Island's continually evolving development. "With support and teamwork we will achieve our goals of stabilization and sustainment of Wake Island," the Captain added.

Mirror, mirror on the wall



Left: Technician Russel Sloan guides a crane into position at Hickam's new C-17 flight simulator building in preparation to place a giant mirror into position. **Right: Mr. Sloan** ties the mirror to the crane so it can be lifted into place



Photo by Mike Day

in front of the simulator cockpit. The mirror is used as part of the viewing screen for the simulator. Hickam's first C-17 Globemaster III "Spirit of Hawaii" will arrive from the Boeing Long Beach, Calif. plant Feb. 8, 2006.

Safe return home brings excitement for Sky Warriors

HICKAM AFB – It was a military homecoming like many others in many places. Sixty nine members of Team Hickam returned from deploying in support of military missions in far away places Sept. 21.

The homecomings may be routine, but the emotion never is. It was difficult not to get caught up in the excitement of the families waiting in eager anticipation of the plane that would bring their loved ones home.

Children ran around excitedly and the air filled with the hum of rapid voices as friends, neighbors, and coworkers talked excitedly about the wait, the weather, or their plans for tomorrow. Always, of course, keeping an eye on the sky for the plane that would land any minute and return mothers, fathers, wives, and husbands back home. More than 250 people were on hand to welcome the Sky Warriors back to Hickam.

Nine-year-old Elizabeth Yaron was barely able to contain herself as she pressed against the red tape separating the families from the flightline ramp. In her hands she held a beautifully made "Welcome Home" sign adorned with pictures and hand-drawn flowers. Her sister Victoria, and her brother Thomas stood watching the sky waiting for that telltale flicker that would signal "dad's home." Their dad, Master Sgt. Thomas Yaron, Pacific Air Forces Regional Supply



Photo by Mark Bates

Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey, 15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs, is welcomed home by Donna Watson, 15th AW Protocol office. Sergeant Munsey was one of 69 returning Sept. 21.

Squadron, was on the flight.

Debbie Otte, wife of Tech. Sgt. Michael Otte, 15th Comptroller Squadron, carried a fleet of balloons as she, daughter Kayla, and son Noah, waited anxiously for the return of their hero.

See RETURN, A7

Wing's Aloha Spirit shines through, tops CFC goal in 8 days

By David Hopper
15th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Hickam's Aloha spirit shined through as the wing hit \$126,799 in contributions just eight days into the Combined Federal Campaign.

The CFC donation goal for the 15th Airlift Wing was set at \$125,000. The planning staff for the CFC had ambitious goals for its first week, like 100 percent contact with all available Federal employees.

According to 1st Lt. Heather Thompson 15th Civil Engineering Squadron, the CFC action officer for the 15th AW, in its full first week the CFC contact rate was more than 98 percent.

"The first numbers provided, prove that the "Aloha Spirit" is alive and well here with Team Hickam Sky

Warriors," she said.

Established more than 40 years ago by President Kennedy, the CFC has always been a wonderful tool to assist Federal employees in contributing to charities.

The CFC helps Federal employees make an informed decision about contributing to a charity by providing federal employees with important information.

The CFC Donor Brochure is filled with all approved charities. Each charity's mission is outlined in the brochure along with a description of how contributions are being used. For a federal employee the most convenient and efficient way to contribute to a charity is by using the CFC. According to Lieutenant Colonel Clare Edelen,

See SPIRIT, A7

A letter from the CSAF

As of Sept. 2 we have a new Chief of Staff of the Air Force. Gen Moseley is a highly respected warfighter, leader, and air and space expert. It's important that you know his thoughts as he begins his tenure leading the world's greatest Air Force.

Letter dated Sept. 2, 2005

To the Airmen of the United States Air Force,

We are a Nation at war. Today marks the 1,426th day we've been fighting Operation

ENDURING FREEDOM. World War II lasted 1,347 days. We've now been fighting the Global War on Terror for 2 1/2 months longer than World War II. From the day DESERT STORM kicked off, January 17th 1991, the Air Force has been in continuous combat. For 14 years our enemies have shot at us and for 14 years we've returned the favor. But no matter how long the road, we must never lose our focus on winning this fight.

Today, we are engaged more than ever... from across the globe to here at home. From taking the fight to the enemy in Iraq; to rebuilding lives in the wake of hurricane Katrina; to controlling satellites on the other side of the world; to fighting forest fires in the Rockies; to patrolling the skies over America – you can be proud of the work your Air Force is doing to protect our country. I'm incredibly proud to be a member of an Air Force family that has over 106,000 Airmen assigned or deployed in 64 countries, on every continent, and in every



Photo by Angela Elbern

Col. Bill "Goose" Changose, 15th Airlift Wing commander, escorts Lynn Pace (white blouse), wife of Marine General Peter Pace, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Dianne Deptula, wife of Lt. Gen. David Deptula, Pacific Air Forces vice commander through the new Hickam senior officer housing area Sept. 9.

time zone throughout the world.

We have handled each and every task brought before us with lethal efficiency, because of you. It is an honor to work and fight alongside you in service to our Republic. The 684,000 active, Reserve, Guard, and civilians of the United States Air Force are truly a total force. We stand alongside our Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine brethren ready to answer the Nation's call. We fight together. We triumph together. Our promise to the joint team is that as Airmen we will always be the best in the world at what we do: dominating Air and

Space from one inch above the ground to 100,000 miles above the earth.

Today, we have three major challenges facing our Air Force. First and foremost is accomplishing the combatant tasks the President and Secretary of Defense assign. The tasks will be ones we've done before and ones we've never undertaken. Second, we must preserve that which makes us the most feared air force in the world – our people. Our culture of excellence must continue to develop Airmen... Airmen who are the most adaptable, most skilled, most professional, and most lethal the world has ever known.

Third, we face the difficult task of operating the oldest inventory in the history of the United States Air Force. My senior leadership will work to break this vicious cycle. I need you, our Airmen on the line, to continue making the mission happen.

As we work toward a more secure, more peaceful tomorrow ... look around. Behind us you'll see a proud, rich heritage. And in front of us is a limitless horizon. So let's push it up, go to work and make the mission happen.

T. Michael Moseley
General, USAF
Chief of Staff

Sergeant learns hard career lesson

By Tech. Sgt. Darryl Holt
25th Air Support Operations Squadron

I was recently given a painful lesson in accountability and leadership. I thought others might gain from my situation.

Two weeks ago, I received an e-mail stating because I failed to get required retainability for a PCS assignment, I was no longer eligible for reenlistment, extension or promotion. I was selected for promotion to Master Sergeant, but I may never see that stripe.

I will be allowed to retire next year after 20 years of service, but my goals and aspirations to go past 20 years, become a First Sergeant and serve in Europe seem to be unattainable. How did this happen?

While I could try to blame others for my plight, as

President Truman said, "The buck stops here." It was my responsibility to ensure I did what needed to be done to continue my career. But in light of what's happening to me, I realized a few things and I'd like to share them with you.

Do not lead by e-mail. This was taught to me in the NCO Academy. Too many times we (myself included) fire off an e-mail and consider that "official notification."

E-mail is a very impersonal way to communicate and even if you use read receipts, it's hard to tell if the message actually got delivered.

If you do rely on e-mail, follow up with a phone call or personal visit, especially if it's regarding something important. And by no means rely on others to forward your email to a third party to take action. If it's important enough to send out, its important enough

to send it to the right person.

Take responsibility for your career. No one, from your supervisor, First Sergeant or even commander is going to care more about your career than you. Take responsibility for what you sign, make sure you understand every word on that document. If there's any doubt, seek advice from an expert. Make sure you understand the ramifications of what your signature entails. If need be, read through the AFI dealing with your situation and become an expert yourself. That way you can protect yourself.

If you make a mistake, own up to it and insist you be given the chance to remedy it. This goes along with the first Air Force Core value of Integrity First. We must do what's right, whether it be for us, our troops or other members, we have some sort of responsibility for.

I had a troop once who failed his CDC exam. I did not manage his CDC's the way I should have. Granted it was his responsibility to study, but I had responsibilities as well.

My commander asked me why he failed. My only response was "I failed him as a supervisor." It would've been so easy to just say he didn't study, but as a supervisor and an NCO, I had to own up to the fact that I was part of the problem.

Don't be afraid to fall on your own sword if it's the right thing to do.

Like I said, these were painful lessons to learn. I'm still hoping to have my eligibility restored, but if not, I'll have served 20 years in the greatest Air Force in the world.

I've been led by some of the greatest leaders, and I've led some of the greatest troops.

Action Line

The purpose of the Action Line is in its name. It's your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community.

It also allows you to recognize individuals who go above and beyond in their duties – and we all know there are plenty of those folks here.

All members of Team Hickam are welcome to use the Action Line; however, I urge you to give the normal chain of command the first chance at resolving problems or issues.

It's only fair to give our commanders and managers the first opportunity to work issues under their responsibility. If you have done this and are still not satisfied, give my commander's Action Line a call.

If you would like me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response.

I'll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing. The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent by e-mail to 15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil.

Editor's note: Due to space, Action Line was suspended in order to accommodate the 101 Days article. Action Line will be will be back next week.

DRESS CODE AT FITNESS CENTER

Comment: I am inquiring about the dress code for the Fitness Center. Is there a policy letter regarding proper dress and appearance? It seems that lately the dress and

appearance (females in particular) has gone from bad to worse. Today I saw a female with a transparent sports bra that is meant to be worn under other clothing as her sole article of clothing on top. In addition, another female had a midriff-bearing sports bra with elastic waist shorts that were rolled down to expose her tattoo on the small of her back, and as if that's not good enough, she rolled them down further and had a thong pulled up above the shorts in the back. Let's not forget the tiny spandex workout shorts that have the bottom part of the butt hanging out. It seems the workout gear is going from tiny to teenie to microscopic with a competition on who can show the most flesh and wear the most transparent item.

Response: Thank you for bringing this issue to our attention. Unfortunately, current Air Force Instructions do not specify what is considered "proper gym attire". There is a fair amount of discretion left to each facility and patron. Our Fitness Center Staff is instructed not to allow anyone to use our facility that they consider improperly dressed or have underwear visibly exposed. Based on your concerns, I have asked our Fitness Center Staff to do a better job monitoring fitness attire. A new policy on proper fitness attire is being developed and will more clearly define what should be deemed appropriate for our facility. Should you have additional questions or concerns please call our Fitness Director at 449-1044.

Hickam Diamond Tips



Women's Shoes

Heels of a height suitable to the individual, but no higher than 2 inches (measured from the inside sole of shoe to the end of heel lift). Do not wear shoes with platform soles, extra-thick soles or heels.

Plain, black, commercial design without ornamentation such as, buckles, bows, straps; smooth, scotch-grained leather or man-made material, patent or high gloss finish. Black satin optional for mess dress and formal dress.

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Questions?
Contact your First Sergeant

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Deadline for copy is noon Thursday for the following Friday's issue. Copy must be typed, double-spaced 12-point type, 300 - 500 words in length, and e-mailed to hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil.

Crisis Response lines

Hickam Family Support Center
449-0300
Life Skills Support Center
449-0175
Law Enforcement Desk
449-6373
Base Chaplain
449-1754
Military Family Abuse Shelter
533-7125
SARC Hotline
449-7272

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Hickam Voices

What’s your favorite charity and why?



National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. It is my favorite because the organization provides services to help survivors rebuild their lives.

Vanessa de la Cueva
Fiancé of
Tech. Sgt. Andrew Leonhard
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs



The Red Cross for Katrina because I have friends and family there.

Jayar Lapuz
Fitness Staff
15th Services Squadron



United Children's Fund because of my son's illness, this organization helped my family when we needed it.

Tiffany Dickerson, Spouse
Navy Petty Officer Demetrius Dickerson



The Red Cross and I usually look at the percentages of other charities to see how much money is actually going to help others and not administration costs. The one with the highest percentage is the one I usually donate to.

Staff Sgt. William Tischler
JICPAC



Big Brothers/Big Sisters. I like to help the needy and less fortunate.

Master Sgt. Fernandos Brown
Kenney Headquarters



Church supported charities because money is raised for food and clothing to help the elderly, children and the needy in the community.

Maj. Janette Goodman
15th Medical Group

Next week’s question:
Why is it important for everyone to know about domestic violence?



Courtesy photo

Left to right: Hickam volunteers, Bette Kalohi, 15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs; Major Stacee Bako, Pacific Air Forces; Sam “Bruddah Sam” Langi, entertainer and TV personality; and Major Tracey Saiki, PACAF Public Affairs joined the nearly 400 celebrity volunteers who manned the phone banks.

Hickam volunteers help at Katrina telethon

By Bette Kalohi
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

KSSK Radio personalities Michael Perry and Larry Price reported the success of the recent Kokua for Katrina telethon concert was due to “an unprecedented spirit of cooperation and coordination.” Singer and author, Henry Kapono, organized the successful telethon and concert held at the Aloha Tower Marketplace in 10 days. Local entertainers such as Na Leo Pilimehana, Willie K and others donated their talents on Kapono's stage in support of the victims of

hurricane Katrina. “Our entertainment community really comes together when there's a need,” said Henry “Kaponu” Ka’aihue who's philanthropic events at Kaponu’s Restaurant are well known in Hawaii. “A lot of people put energy into this and it's all from the heart.” Volunteers included Carol Kai who ran the phone banks, and numerous celebrities who manned the phones and took pledges which tallied to nearly \$100,000 (with donations still coming in). “All the money will go to the American Red Cross for victims of Katrina” Carol Kai explained with her typical enthusiasm. “We had a really great bunch of volunteers with big hearts who performed on stage or who took pledges over the phone.” Among the many local well known personalities who manned the phone banks were Mayor Mufi Hanneman, Country Western singer Dita Holifield, KHON TV’s Trini Kaopuiki, Tannya Joaquin and the effervescent duo “Lina Girl” and “Bruddah Sam” from OC 16’s “Local Kine Grinz” show.

STEptacular



Photo by Ronald Godsy

Newly promoted Tech. Sgt. Toni Wiser, 15th Contracting Squadron, has her brand new E-6 strips “tacked” on by her husband Staff Sgt. Shawn Wiser, 15th Services Squadron, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Jim LeVack, 15th AW, Sept. 20. Tech. Sgt. Wiser just returned arlier this month from a four-month deployment to Southeast Asia. The couple have two children, Caitlin and Liam.

PACOM gets fired up for CFC

By Army Spc. Tim Meyer
U.S. Pacific Command
Public Affairs

The 2005 Hawaii-Pacific Area Combined Federal Campaign kicked off with an open-house luncheon at the Hickam’s Officer’s Club Lanai Sept. 20. For the first time PACOM is sponsoring this event, with the theme of “Heroes of the Pacific - Be one!”

Forty-nine charities set up booths to promote information and awareness. Lunch was provided for the guests, as was music by The Air Force Trio from Hickam, , and a Polynesian Fire Dance by Hawaiian Air National Guard Tech. Sgt. Carson Peapealalo. The event concluded with an address by Navy Rear Adm. Van Alford, Acting Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff, U.S. Pacific Command. “We need to light a fire in this campaign,” he said to the more than 300 CFC project officers, leaders and representatives from all branches of service and several government agencies. “Give the support needed to ensure ‘100 percent contact’ occurs within your organization.” Master of ceremonies Col. Brian Forzani reminded the crowd to “Find, Educate, Ask, and Thank” potential donors.

“We want CFC representatives to take motivation and momentum with them as they work on the campaign for the next five and a half weeks,” said Lt. Col. Clare Edelen, CFC Special Events Deputy. “If you look through the CFC Donor Brochure, there are a few agencies that have touched you,” Edelen said. “If not the Humane Society or Feral Cats, there’s the Cancer Society ... so, out of 1,700 agencies, some agency has touched you personally.” Each fall the CFC unites all military and federal employees as one team towards supporting eligible non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world. Any military or federal government employee can participate by making a donation in cash, by check, or payroll deduction, the preferred method of giving. For more information, individuals may contact their military/civilian CFC representative, or visit <http://www.cfc-hawaii.org>. The campaign runs through Oct. 28.

AFIA's health services inspections demystified

By Ariane Ash
Air Force Inspection Agency
Public Affairs

Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. - When a team from the Air Force Inspection Agency arrives at the front door of a medical treatment facility, they have one goal: turning excellent health care into outstanding health care. AFIA is the only Air Force unit that conducts health services inspections on all Air Force medical facilities - active duty, guard and Reserve. HSI's provide Air Force

medical leaders with independent assessments of programs implemented across the Air Force. “The HSI's conducted by AFIA's inspection teams ensure the health care provided to Airmen and their families is top notch,” said Lt. Gen. Steven Polk, Air Force Inspector General. “HSI's have had a huge impact on Air Force health care, providing superb guidance to help units provide their patients better services.” AFIA's teams are responsible for the inspection of

256 MTFs world wide. The agency inspects MTFs for all major commands to ensure a standard interpretation of inspection criteria across the Air Force. AFIA ensures all active-duty units are inspected every one to four years, averaging 34 months between inspections. Air Reserve Components are inspected every four to five years. “We want our inspections to ensure that active-duty units focus on sustained performance,” said Col. Thomas Berardinelli, AFIA

commander, “which is why we conduct inspections with no more than 30 days' notice. Previously a major command unit compliance inspection responsibility, Aeromedical evacuation squadrons have recently been re-integrated into AFIA's inspection mission. Since 2003, the agency has inspected 12 squadrons, providing feedback on compliance with Air Force, major command, wing and unit instructions and policy regarding support services and management of

resources for clinical operations. AFIA's Medical Operations Directorate developed and constantly improves a process that focuses on compliance with clinical operations, competence and training. The HSI process consists of nine functional areas ranging from medical readiness training to dentistry. Experts in each area interview the functional area points of contact. The functional experts then review the documentation gathered from the unit. Based on the assessments, a score is assigned. “We want to emphasize to units we inspect that we are there to help identify strengths and weaknesses in programs to improve the overall operations of the facility,” said Maj. Robert Paz of the Medical Operations Directorate. Inspection teams are assembled from a pool of 33 inspectors - 21 active-duty and 12 active reservists. In addition, the agency dedicates one inspector to radioactive materials at MTFs and other facilities.

Communication endeavor links nations

By **Spc. Tim Meyer**,
U.S. PACOM Public Affairs

Military forces from 16 countries in the U.S. Pacific Command learned to improve communications in Pacific Endeavor 2005, a multinational communications and information systems interoperability workshop held here Sept. 12 to 23.

During the workshop, delegations from participating nations tested their radio equipment interoperability, the process of enabling one country to speak to another, which often meant breaking equipment and language barriers.

“The language barrier was a problem,” said Australian Army Corporal Jodi Lennard, a radio operator from the 1st Joint Support Unit in Brisbane, Australia, and detachment commander for the five personnel in her country’s group. “But it was good to see the equipment that the other countries have, and the difference between how the Australian army works compared to the other countries,” she said.

The workshop was a success, according to participants and organizers. “Sixteen nations with different backgrounds and different cultures put aside their differences and worked together towards a common goal,” said Capt. Christopher Goh, the delegation chief from Singapore.

According to U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Douglas Persons, Chief, Standards Branch, PACOM, many of the participating countries used U.S. equipment. “But some of them, like Mongolia, for instance, use Russian-made equipment, and we had some good tests with them,” said Persons, who was the workshop director.



Photo by PH3 Rebecca J. Moat

U.S. Army SSG Clifford Taylor (left) reviews test results of high frequency radios with LT Ochirbat Gunaajav (center) and SGT Ganbold Bolor (right) of the Army of Mongolia during Pacific Endeavor 2005, the first Multinational Communications and Information Systems Interoperability Workshop held in the U.S. Pacific Command.

The U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) hosted the inaugural workshop, developed by the Communications Working Group of the Multinational Planning and Augmentation Team (MPAT) Program at PACOM.

Participating nations included Australia, Fiji, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Mongolia, Singapore, Madagascar, Germany, Malaysia, New Zealand, Tonga, Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, Philippines, and the United States.

As a result of the workshop, a database is being created that will permit communications planning when countries with different equipment work together in the future.

“This database allows communications planners to be able to construct a communications architecture for a combined task force, or an exercise, and it allows them to do it a lot

quicker, because they have the information right in front of them, instead of calling 1,000 places to find out what you are going to bring, and all the details,” said Persons.

“It saves an incredible amount of time, so they can know what the situation is going to be, communications-wise, once they get there,” he continued.

The database will include statistics such as what equipment was used, from which country, how the different connections were made, how each piece of equipment was connected together, and all the technical specifications, like size, weight, dimensions, frequencies, range of frequencies, power and connections requirements, and the test results, Persons added.

Pacific Endeavor organizers said they learned some things from Combined Endeavor, an annual exercise in its

eleventh year, which brought together 43 countries in Europe earlier this year.

“The other side of this, which is equally important, is human interoperability, which is a term we use for establishing professional relationships,” said Persons. “One of the good things that we saw come out of Combined Endeavor is that a lot of participants from each of the countries over the years have moved up in the ranks. Some have become general officers or leading decision makers within the communications area,” he continued.

Through all those years working together, [Combined Endeavor participants] formed relationships with their counterparts in other countries, so that when the time comes to be able to make informed decisions, it makes it very easy to reach out to another country, and know who to reach to get the right kind of information quickly, Persons said.

The same process took place during Pacific Endeavor, according to Persons. “It will take some time to develop those kind of long-term relationships, but we have a good start, and we’ve been working together for more than a year now,” he added.

During the workshop, future events were planned to foster stronger relationships among the delegates and their countries.

“They have been good friends and allies, and I look forward to working with them in the future,” Persons said as he thanked the representatives at the closing ceremony.

Top officials discuss expanded DoD role in disaster response

By **Donna Miles**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – President Bush Monday urged Congress to consider whether the Defense Department should play a lead role in coordinating responses to catastrophic events such as Hurricane Katrina.

Responding to a reporter’s question while addressing the energy situation on the Gulf Coast, the president confirmed that he was impressed by his weekend visit to U.S. Northern Command and is considering the plausibility of an expanded military role in disaster response.

Such a decision would likely require congressional approval and possible changes in the law, but is worthy of discussion and consideration, Bush said. “One of the reasons I went out to NORTHCOM was to see the operations there, to look at how well-organized NORTHCOM is (and) to listen to them talk about lessons learned from ... a major storm like Katrina,” the president said.

The visit also offered an opportunity “to think about ways for our country to properly respond to a catastrophic event, whether it be a natural catastrophic event or perhaps a terrorist attack,” he said. Bush raised the concept of

an expanded DoD role in disaster response during a Sept. 25 Hurricane Rita briefing at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. DoD would naturally assume the leadership role in the case of a terrorist attack, the president said, noting that extensive natural disasters could warrant the same level of response. “That’s going to be a very important consideration for Congress to think about,” he said. Monday Bush said he welcomes “a robust discussion about the best way for the federal government ... to rally assets for the good of the people” under extreme circumstances.

He encouraged Congress “to think about a circumstance that requires a lot of planning and a lot of assets immediately on the scene in order to stabilize” the situation.

Under one scenario he suggested, DoD would mobilize the necessary federal assets – most of them military assets – to stabilize a crisis situation then turn it over to the Department of Homeland Security, Bush said.

“And I think it’s very important for us, as we look at the lessons of Katrina, to think about other scenarios that might require a well-planned, significant federal response right off the bat to provide stability,” he said.

Air Force Aid Society supports families

By Kirsten Tacker
Kukini Photojournalist

The Air Force Aid Society’s intention is to ease family stress, improve quality of life and take care of our Air Force family.

The AFAS is the recognized charitable institution of the Air Force. Their purpose is to assist military members, families, retirees and inactive duty reservist for emergency financial needs.

“On a case by case basis we can discern when we are approached for aid,” said May Bacungan, lead community readiness consultant for the Family Support Center.

“Periodically we give grants and they don’t have to pay it back, but for the most part we give a loan that is zero interest payable within a year or 10 months, so reasonably light on the pocket. That is just one of the main functions.”

As long as a service-member and their family are eligible and can pay back on a timely basis they will receive emergency funding in their time of need.

“We get people needing repair for their cars and that is their primary vehicle, that is the caveat there, it has to be a primary vehicle,” said Ms. Bacungan.

“On a case by case basis we can discern when we are approached for aid.”

May Bacungan
Consultant for the
Family Support Center

“We assist if there is a death in the family, depending upon the circumstance and the capacity to pay then we go ahead and process it. We’ve helped a lot with emergency flights, emergency travels for the most part it is when somebody dies in the family.”

One of the things the AFAS does not want to do is compound on the financial difficulties someone may already be having.

The AFAS provides some funds for the Family Support Center to sustain the many community programs that serve the Air

Force population.

“We have a Personal Financial Management Program where you can sit with our technician and they’ll help you reconstruct your budget or some other means of strategizing where you can allocate your money, how to pay off your debt faster,” said Ms. Bacungan.

They’re interested in looking at the financial wellness of the Air Force population and making sure their budget is as healthy as it can be.

“We get people who have difficulty with their PCS move, their money’s not there yet, the pay didn’t come through or they’ve run out of money and they have no food. We give just enough to stabilize them for that time being while they are in transition,” said Ms. Bacungan.

There is deployment assistance through the Family Readiness Program, Hearts Apart Program, the families divided because of deployment can go to the Family Support Center, the AFAS supplies families with a \$20 phone card to keep the communication lines flowing. This is a useful resource when separated and sustaining a relationship.

“Then we have Car Care Program because we care, that is to make sure their vehicle is maintained while the spouse is deployed. If they are gone for 30 days or more they are entitled to that.”

They also have Give Parents a Break every month, not exclusive to deployed families, but for to folks who need a break from the daily routine for a bit.

There is also 20 hours per child, free childcare for families who are PCSing for all ranks within 60 days of PCS whether coming or going.

If someone volunteers, AFAS provides a nominal sum to accommodate for the volunteers childcare needs.

“We have Bundles for Babies, that is a neat little program,” said Ms. Bacungan. “We invite them to classes and they learn about parenting issues and things like that and at the end of the workshop they get a bundle of baby supplies. It doesn’t matter if it is your 10th baby, you can still attend and it doesn’t matter what rank, over here we call it, What to Expect When you are Expecting.”

For those that are new to the Air Force, the Family

Support Center has an orientation program to ease individuals through the transition.

“We have Heart Link. It is a spouse orientation for those married 5 years or less to the military lifestyle and it shows you how to tap into the community resources and network,” said Ms. Bacungan.

They want newcomers to know that they are not the only ones trying to figure things out like, what is the Air Force mission, and what is the importance of your spouse’s role?

There is a Spouse Tuition Assistance Program for overseas bases that AFAS will fund as long as the individual is working towards a degree. AFAS can pay up to 50 percent of a student’s tuition.

“We have another program called Respite Care. It is for the families that have a diagnosed special needs child,” said Ms. Bacungan.

Community programs are the second tier of the AFAS. While AFAS wants to help out, they also work to foster independence.

For more informatino about AFAS call the Family Support Center at 449-0300 or visit the Web site at www.afas.org



Domestic Disturbance

Security forces patrol was dispatched to Hickam housing for a 911 call. Upon arrival, initial investigations revealed an active-duty Air Force member and civilian spouse were involved in an altercation.

Assault/Underage Consumption/Failure to Obey

Four active-duty Air Force members were apprehended by 15th Security Forces in an altercation at the Hickam's JR Rocker's Club.

Shoplifting

A retired Navy family member was detained by Army Air Force exchange service store detectives for shoplifting. Total cost of stolen merchandise: \$3.77

Shoplifting

A retired Army family member was detained by Army Air Force exchange service store detectives for shoplifting. Total cost of stolen merchandise: \$10.

Shoplifting

An active-duty Air Force family member was detained by Army Air Force exchange service store detectives for shoplifting. Total cost of stolen merchandise: \$30.99



Texas Hold ‘Em

Bring your luck and skill today to the Hickam enlisted Club for the monthly Texas Hold ‘Em tournament. The event begins at 7 p.m. and the cost is \$15 per person. Club members are FREE!

Fit factor blowout party

Kids, get up-get out-get fit! The Air Force Services Family Member Programs is having a huge blowout party to mark the launch of Fit Factor, a new Youth Fitness and Health initiative that encourages physical activity and healthy eating for youth ages 9 to 18 years. The Fit Factor Blowout Party will be held on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the soccer field behind the School

Age/Kidsports Building #1335. There will be prizes, food and games. Everyone who attends will receive a prize! For more information, contact Dana Smith at 448-6611, Ron Kubo at 449-2233, BJ Bentley at 448-4492 or Charlie Lewis at 449-2261.

Spear fishing workshop

A spear fishing workshop will be held on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. The class will meet at Pool #2 and the cost is \$30 per person. Ages 15-years-old and up are welcome. Participants must bring own mask, fins and snorkel gear.

New group rates for training sessions

The Fitness Center is now offering group rates for personal training sessions. The group rates are for groups of two to four people. You and your group can get one one-hour session for \$25 or six one-hour sessions for \$130. Call the Fitness Center at 449-1044 to

schedule your personal training session.



Family and teen talent contest

The Community Center will be hosting the 2005 Family and Teen Talent Contest on Friday. The Community Center invites moms, dads, brothers and sisters to sing, dance and perform together in this family-oriented event. Contestants can enter in one of 15 categories: parent and child; husband and wife; children (ages 3 to 5); children (ages 6 to 8); preteen solo (ages 9 to 12); preteen group (ages 9 to 12); teen solo (ages 13 to 15); teen group (ages 13 to 15); teen solo (ages 16 to 18); teen group (ages 16 to 18); and family. Videos of base win-

ners will be submitted for an Air Force Level contest. Call the Community Center at 449-3354 for more information.

Football frenzy

Come on down to the Enlisted Club for Football Frenzy every Monday beginning at 3 p.m. There will be beverage specials, free pupus, and prizes for members. On Sunday mornings at 7 a.m., you can also come in and root for your home team at NFL Live! Free breakfast plate for member and spouse. Cost for additional guests is \$5.



Mixed couples golf tournament

Join us Sunday for the Mixed Couples Golf

Tournament at Mamala Bay Golf Course. Second-round times begin at 11:45 a.m. This is an 18-hole event with multiple formats. The cost is \$15 per couple, plus playing fees. Call 449-6490 for more information or sign up at the Mamala Bay pro shop.

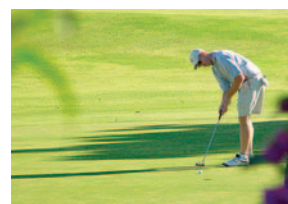
Craft techniques night

Every Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. is craft techniques night at the Arts and Crafts Center. Come learn something new with us.

Boofest

Experience the haunted woods of Bellows Air Force Station on the Duck of Doom. Reach frightening heights on the Bloody Bungee Trampoline. Climb the Rock Wall of Terror. Come to Boofest at Bellows on Oct. 14 and 15 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. and enjoy all the free activities. Food, snacks and drinks will be available for purchase. Wear a costume and enter the costume contest. Enjoy

mask making, face painting, temporary tattoos and more.



Link up 2 golf

Sign up for this five-week program for just \$99. The clinic will be held on Monday evenings from 4:30 to 6 p.m. You can register online by going to the www.hickamservices.com. Click on “golf” and then click on the link for “Play Golf America” Web site. Classes will be limited to the first six students.

Schedule is as follows: Oct. 3 - Orientation and lesson one; Oct. 10, lesson two; Oct. 17, lesson three; Oct. 24, lesson four; Oct. 31, lesson five.

Calling all crafters!

Registration begins Oct.

See SERVICES, A7

SPIRIT, From A1

Headquarters Pacific Command Deputy of Special Events and a member of the 2005 CFC planning committee, “the CFC utilizes tools like payroll deduction to assist military members contribute to the charities of their choice”.

The importance of the CFC is not only in the selfless act of giving. The information Federal employees receive from these charitable organizations may someday help save their lives or the life of a loved one. In most cases, early detection can mean the difference between life and death. According to Linda Guess from Easter Seals Hawaii “spreading information about awareness, education and management of illness and disease are the major goals of these organizations”.

RETURN, From A1

Fortunately, no one had long to wait. By 7:15 p.m., the plane was on the ground and there was an eruption of cheers and applause as the aircraft taxied over to DV-3. As the door opened and the first of Team Hickam’s return-

ing warriors appeared at the top of the gangplank the crowd broke into a rousing rendition of the Air Force Song.

There was barely contained enthusiasm as our Airmen assembled below the plane and marched

Recent events in the U.S. have without a doubt pointed out the importance of charities in our society. It does not seem to be a matter of “if” the charities are needed but “when”. With Hurricanes brewing in the Pacific the reality of what has happened in New Orleans is more than clear. The charities we are being asked to support today could also be helping our loved ones tomorrow. When considering whether or not to give to CFC, the PACAF Director of Operations Major General Rice said it best, “Donating to the CFC gives military members a satisfaction that one can only get from helping those in need”. Contributions to the CFC is by no means mandatory, it is nothing more than an opportunity to help out.

The appreciation of these organizations to our military members is clear. Jodi Yoshida of Hawaii Foodbank said, “Hawaii Foodbank truly appreciates the support the military gives through the CFC to help us continue our mission of helping to feed Hawaii’s hungry.”

With CFC Federal employees can help give a homeless person a hot meal, help doctor’s research deadly diseases or even give a dying child his final wish.

These are important reasons to give to the CFC. The smiles and appreciation of those whose life has been changed are eternal. If you haven’t been contacted about CFC contributions feel free to call 1st Lt. Thompson at 449-3084.

proudly to stand in front of the 15th Airlift Wing commander. Col Bill “Goose” Changose’s speech was brief. His comments peppered with words like “pride” and “excellence.” Compliments these Airmen had heartily

earned. With a final command of “Troop Commander, dismiss your troops,” the wing commander allowed the formation to be dismissed, and amid camera flashes, hugs and tears Team Hickam welcomed back it’s own.

SERVICES, From A6

15 for the 30th Annual Fall Craft Fair and Dog Show. Registration will be held at the Arts and Crafts Center Gallery and will continue until Nov. 4. Cost is \$65 per booth or \$85 for a shared booth. The event will be held on Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



New classes at the community center

Belly dancing classes will begin in October as soon as there are enough people registered. Classes are 8-weeks long and will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6 - 7 p.m. The cost is \$100 per person. Also coming soon to the Community Center: Kindermusik and ballroom

dancing classes. Call the Community Center at 449-3354 for more information or to put your name on any class list.

Teen driver’s education instruction

The Community Center’s Teen Driver’s Education Instruction is a six-week class followed by six hours of behind the wheel Instruction. The cost is \$365 for the complete course. Call the Community Center at 449-3354 to register for the Oct. 15 session.

Scrapbook club

The Scrapbook Club will host its annual Croptoberfest workshop on Oct. 22 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. There will be a registration fee of \$30 for a half-day or \$35 for a full-day of scrapbooking. This fee includes the use of cropping tools, great handouts and food. Call the Community Center at 449-3354 for more information.



Editor's Note: To read the complete stories and find more Air Force News, go to www.af.mil.

Medics transform 'Toy Land' into medical facility

ELLINGTON FIELD, Texas – The Texas Air National Guard stood up Task Force Compassion here to provide Hurricane Rita evacuees medical support and to evacuate non-critical patients from overburdened local hospitals.

Task force Airmen and Soldiers began setting up a 10-bed medical treatment facility overnight in Ellington's abandoned base exchange and opened for business Sept. 26.

The treatment facility has 47 medics from the 147th Medical Group here, the 149th MG at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, the 136th MG at Naval Air Station-Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth and the Army National Guard Support Medical Battalion in San Antonio.

"If you go in there now, you'll be surprised because there is still a sign on the wall advertising Toy Land. Next to it is a sign that says 'Intensive Care Unit,'" said Maj. (Dr.) Richard Bradley, assigned to Ellington.

"It's a playful anecdote given our medical teams aren't playing around," he said. "They are working very hard around the clock to transform Toy Land into an efficient treatment facility."

Major Bradley stressed that medical missions are being accomplished as quickly as possible in preparation for the expected arrival of patients. But with such an experienced team, he doesn't expect any major delays in standing up operations.

Senior Airman Kelly Smith, a 149th MG medical technician, arrived late Sept. 26. Having just worked at a field hospital in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, she knows how vital this hospital is in a pinch.

"I know from personal experience that our field hospital allows us to help the people who need it most," Airman Smith said. "I know when I'm able to do something for somebody that's making their life a little bit better, it's satisfying."

More medical personnel will begin arriving soon to support the task force. They will come from medical groups in Arizona, California, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, New York, Ohio, Virginia and Wisconsin. (By Master Sgt. Lee Roberts, Air Force Print News)

Air Force reservists fly last C-141 mission to combat zone

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFP) – For the last time in its long career, a C-141 Starlifter aircraft flew military patients out of a war zone Sept. 26.

It was the end of a five-day mission to the Middle East for the airlift plane from the 445th Airlift Wing here. The aircraft first started airlifting the sick and wounded from combat zones more than 40 years ago in Southeast Asia.

The Starlifter took cargo to Europe before the aircraft's historic last mission out of the Middle East in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Medics will continue their aeromedical role on other types

of aircraft, such as the C-17A Globemaster III or C-5 Galaxy.

"Many of our missions aboard the C-141 were to Vietnam in the 60s and early 70s to carry patients and human remains back — just as we do now," said Chief Master Sgt. Richard Hays, the wing's chief loadmaster.

"I will really miss the plane and the mission as I will be retiring with the airplane," the chief said. "Since this is the only thing I've done for 36 years, it has been my life. I will miss it immeasurably."

Since 2002, C-141s have flown more than 2,000 combat sorties and moved more than 70 million pounds of war-fighting material.

See AROUND, A9



Civil Air Patrol responds

HOUSTON – First Lt. G. Paul Roberts cleans the quartz glass portal of the airborne real-time cueing hyperspectral enhanced reconnaissance system aboard an Australian made Gippsland Aeronautics "Airvan" aircraft. His Civil Air Patrol mission here will be to detect oil spills and pollution in the affected region of Hurricane Rita.

Photo by Master Sgt. Lance Cheung

AROUND, From A8

After Sept. 30, wing aircrews will continue flying C-141s, mostly inside the borders of the continental United States, until spring of 2006 when the last C-141 will fly out of the Air Force inventory and into aviation history books. *(By Maj. Ted Theopolos, 445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs)*

Rescue teams switch to stand-by mode

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Search-and-rescue aircrews here will fly as needed, but are no longer launching on pre-planned missions to find vic-

tims of Hurricane Rita, officials said Sept. 26.

The changes come as four HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters moved from here to Ellington Field, near Houston. They also will be on stand-by status for search and rescue missions.

On missions Sept. 25, four HH-60s searched an area near Silsbee, Texas, near the Louisiana border. The effort yielded no saves or assists, said Col. Mark Noyes, commander of the search-and-rescue effort here.

Helicopter crews have flown 57 sorties supported by 36 air-refueling missions. Since the start of operations, Sept. 22, Airmen have made seven saves and assisted with five others.

A total force search-and-res-

cue team has been flying missions from Randolph since Sept. 22. The team includes aircrews, pararescuemen and support people from the 347th Rescue Wing, Moody Air Force Base, Ga., and the Air Force Reserve’s 920th Rescue Wing at Patrick AFB, Fla. Airmen from Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., and Nellis AFB, Nev., also flew on missions.

The search-and-rescue effort is part of a larger, coordinated federal effort to find Rita victims.

Including the four helicopters at Ellington, the search-and-rescue unit has nine HH-60s and three HC-130s, which provide aerial refueling capability. *(By Tech. Sgt. Jason Tudor, Air Force Print News)*

Check the oil please

MORON AIR BASE, Spain – It’s a long flight over “the pond” from the United States to Africa and Europe. Sometimes that flight is twice as long for those deploying to Southwest Asia.

Moron Air Base is bout halfway to those locations – and the key bases from where the U.S. military runs Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

It’s in the right place for a service station or rest area – the middle of a hot, arid land.

The base is like an oasis, located in Spain’s famous Andalusia region, about 35

miles southeast of Seville. In the past, this region was the launching point for the discovery of America. It is the birthplace of the flamenco dance. And since 1953, it has been what former Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche called an “irreplaceable gateway to Southwest and Central Asia.”

Apart from other Air Force units, the base is home to the 4th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron. Its Airmen are in perfect position to receive air transports, offer beds for aircrew and passengers and provide maintenance so aircraft may continue their missions “downrange” or home.

“Generally, the flights coming from downrange are better

— since the passengers are mostly smiling,” said Senior Master Sgt. Bill Morrissey, the squadron’s production superintendent.

Holding a big gate open for transiting C-5 Galaxy transports are 46 maintainers. They’re a total force mix that includes active duty, professional and traditional reservists from three bases, seven units and 10 Air Force specialties.

Sergeant Morrissey said the Airmen provide a bi-directional C-5 staging area with around-the-clock operations. The Airmen handle, on a monthly average, 70 C-5’s that move 900 tons of cargo and 1,000 passengers. *(By Master Sgt. John E. Lasky, Air Force Print News)*

NOTES, From A1

Tradewinds Enlisted Club.

Top 3 Meeting – The Hickam TOP 3 Association meetings are now held on the first Wednesday of each month.

Next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 5 at 3 p.m. at the enlisted club. Guest Speaker is Airman 1st Class Newcomb from AADD.

Suicide/Violence Awareness Briefing – Life Skills will be conducting mass suicide/violence awareness briefings at the Memorial Theater at: 8 and 10 a.m. and 1 and 3 p.m. five days: Oct. 11, 12, 13, 25, and 26.

For more information contact Master Sgt. Hall at ext 449-0175.

ALS graduation set for Oct. 12 – The Hickam PME Center cordially invites Team Hickam to a celebration recognizing Airman Leadership School Class 05-D on the occasion of their graduation.

The diploma and awards ceremony will be held Oct. 12 at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club starting at 10:30 a.m.

Military dress is uniform of the day. Come out and help us honor this Air Force career milestone.

Community Center plans Family & Teen Talent Contest – The Hickam Community Center hosts the 2005 Family and Teen Talent Contest Nov. 4 at the Community Center. Moms, dads, brothers and sisters are invited to sing, dance, and perform together in the family-oriented event.

Contestants can enter in one of 15 categories: parent and child team; husband and wife team; children (ages 3 to 5); children (ages 6 to 8); preteen solo (ages 9 to 12); preteen group (ages 9 to 12); teen solo (ages 13 to 15); teen group (ages 13 to 15); teen solo (ages 16 to 18); teen group (ages 16 to 18); and family. Videos of base winners will be submitted for an Air Force-level contest.

Those interested can call the Community Center at 449-3354 for more information.

Wayland Baptist University – Wayland Baptist University offers Associate, Bachelor and

Master’s Degree in a variety of programs. Registration for the Fall Term is going on right now. Classes start Oct 3.

The classes are offered in two and half week, five week or ten week sessions. For more information, stop by WBU’s office in Hangar 2, rooms 116 and 119. Check out our Web site at www.wbu.edu/hi or call 422-6777.

TDY Travelers – The Commercial Travel Office (CTO) CI Travel requires four copies of your orders after your reservations are made with us.

CI Travel will not issue your paper or e-tickets without orders. You can contact the Traffic Management Office (TMO) at 449-6003 ext 219, if you have any questions.

PCS Travelers – All PCS travelers are required to pick up their tickets in person at Traffic Management Office (TMO). PCS travelers are required depart within their DEROS month.

Contact TMO at 449-6003 ext. 219 with any questions.

TMO is located at 990 Scott Circle, Building 1113 (next to Base Gym).